IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Previously Presented) A polymeric composition according to claim 52, wherein the B polymer has about 2 functional groups per polymer chain and the molar ratio of A polymer to B polymer is about 2:1 to about 2:1.7.

3. (Previously Presented) A polymeric composition according to claim 52, wherein the B polymer has about 3 functional groups per polymer chain and the molar ratio of A polymer to B polymer is about 3:1.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Re-written as New Claim 52)

10. (Previously Presented) A polymeric composition according to claims 2 or 3 wherein said A polymer is a styrene/2-ethylhexyl acrylate/2-hydroxyethyl methacrylate polymer having a Mn in a range from about 500 to about 50,000.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 53, wherein the B polymer has about 2 functional groups per polymer chain and the molar ratio of A polymer to B polymer is about 2:1 to about 2:1.7

13. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 53, wherein the B polymer has about 3 functional groups per polymer chain and the molar ratio of A polymer to B polymer is about 3:1.)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Re-written as New Claim 53)

21. (Previously Presented) A process according to claims 12 or 13 wherein said A polymer has 3.5 or more hydroxyl functional groups per polymer chain, said A polymer is a styrene/2-ethyl hexyl acrylate/2-hydroxyl ethyl methacrylate polymer having a Mn in a range from about 500 to about 50,000, said polymeric composition being substantially non-gelled.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Previously Presented) A 100% solids resin ink composition according to claim 54, wherein the B polymer has about 2 functional groups per polymer chain and the molar ratio of A polymer to B polymer is about 2:1 to about 2:1.7.

34. (Previously Presented) A 100% solids resin ink composition according to claim 54, wherein the B polymer has about 3 functional groups per polymer chain and the molar ratio of A polymer to B polymer is about 3:1.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Re-written as New Claim 54)

41. (Previously Presented) A 100% solids resin ink composition according to claims 33 or 34, wherein said A polymer is a styrene/2-ethylhexyl acrylate/2-hydroxyethyl methacrylate polymer having a Mn in a range from about 500 to about 50,000.

42. (Original) A method of preparing a reduced gloss acrylic epoxy hybrid powder coating comprising the step of mixing (a) a polymeric composition comprising a substantially non-gelled polymeric composition that is the reaction product of an A polymer which is an addition polymer having 3.5 or more reactive functional groups per polymer chain and a B polymer having about 2 to about 3 functional groups per polymer chain that are co-reactive with said reactive functional groups of the A polymer; (ii) an epoxy resin and (iii) an acrylic resin, wherein substantially all of the co-reactive functional groups of the B polymer have been co-reacted and a molar ratio of A polymer to B polymer is about 3:1 to about 2:1.7.

43. (Original) A method according to claim 42, wherein the B polymer has about 2 functional groups per polymer chain and the molar ratio of A polymer to B polymer is about 2:1 to about 2:1.7.

44. (Original) A method according to claim 42, wherein the B polymer has about 3 functional groups per polymer chain and the molar ratio of A polymer to B polymer is about 3:1.

45. (Original) A method according to any one of claims 43 or 44, wherein said reactive functional group of the A polymer is a condensation-reactive functional group selected from the group consisting of carboxyl, hydroxyl, epoxy, isocyanato, carboxyl anhydride, sulfo, esterified oxycarbonyl, amino or mixtures thereof.

46. (Original) A method according to any one of claims 43 or 44 wherein said B polymer is a condensation polymer selected from the group consisting of polyamide, polyester, epoxy, polyurethane, polyorganosiloxane and poly(ether).

47. (Original) A method according to claim 46, wherein said co-reactive functional groups of said B polymer are hydroxyl, carboxyl, epoxy, oxazolinyl, ester, amino, isocyanato or mixtures thereof.

48. (Original) A method according to claim 47, wherein said A polymer has 3.5 or more carboxyl functional groups per polymer chain.

49. (Original) A method according to claim 48, wherein said A polymer is a styrene/acrylic acid/α-methyl-styrene polymer having an Mn in a range from about 500 to about 50,000.

50. (Original) A method according to claim 47, wherein said A polymer has 3.5 or more hydroxyl functional groups per polymer chain.

51. (Cancelled)

52. (Currently Amended) A polymeric composition comprising the reaction product of an A polymer which is an addition polymer having 3.5 or more reactive functional groups per polymer chain and a B polymer having about 2 to about 3 functional groups per polymer chain that are co-reactive with said reactive functional groups of the A polymer, wherein substantially all of the co-reactive functional groups of the B polymer have been co-reacted and a molar ratio of A polymer to B polymer is about 3:1 to about 2:1.7, said B polymer is a condensation polymer selected from the group consisting of polyamide, polyester, epoxy, polyurethane, polyorganosiloxane and poly(ether), said co-reactive functional groups of said B polymer are ~~hydroxyl,~~ carboxyl, epoxy, oxazolinyl, ester, amino, isocyanato or mixtures thereof, and said A polymer has 3.5 or more hydroxyl functional groups per polymer chain, said polymeric composition being ~~essentially~~ **substantially** non-gelled.

53. (Previously Presented) A process for preparing a polymeric composition, said process comprising the step of reacting an A polymer which is an addition polymer having 3.5 or more reactive functional groups per polymer chain with a B polymer having about 2 to about 3 functional groups per polymer chain that are co-reactive with the reactive functional

groups of the A polymer at a temperature and for a time sufficient to form the substantially non-gelled polymeric composition, wherein substantially all of the co-reactive functional groups of the B polymer have been co-reacted and a molar ratio of A polymer to B polymer is about 3:1 to about 2:1.7, said temperature is between about -50° C to about 300° C, said reactive functional group of the A polymer is a condensation-reactive functional group selected from the group consisting of carboxyl, hydroxyl, epoxy, isocyanato, carboxyl anhydride, sulfo, esterified oxycarboxyl, amino or mixtures thereof, said B polymer is a condensation polymer selected from the group consisting of polyamide, polyester, epoxy, polyurethane, silicone and poly(ether), said co-reactive functional groups of said B polymer are hydroxyl, carboxyl, epoxy, oxazolinyl, ester, amino, isocyanato or mixtures thereof, and said A polymer has 3.5 or more hydroxyl functional groups per polymer chain, said polymeric composition being substantially non-gelled.

54. (Currently Amended) A 100% solids resin ink composition comprising: (i) a substantially non-gelled polymeric composition that is the reaction product of an A polymer which is an addition polymer having 3.5 or more reactive functional groups per polymer chain and a B polymer having about 2 to about 3 functional groups per polymer chain that are co-reactive with said reactive functional groups of the A polymer, said B polymer is a condensation polymer selected from the group consisting of polyamide, polyester, epoxy, polyurethane, polyorganosiloxane and poly(ether), said co-reactive functional groups of said B polymer are ~~hydroxyl,~~ carboxyl, epoxy, oxazolinyl, ester, amino, isocyanato or mixtures thereof, said A polymer has 3.5 or more hydroxyl functional groups per polymer chain, and (ii) a colorant, wherein substantially all of the co-reactive functional groups of the B polymer have been co-reacted and a molar ratio of A polymer to B polymer is about 3:1 to about 2:1.7.